



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No. 10/662,475

Applicant: KOSAKI et al.

Filed: September 16, 2003

TC/AU: 1746

Examiner: M. Kornakov

Docket No.: 402784

Customer No.: 23548

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

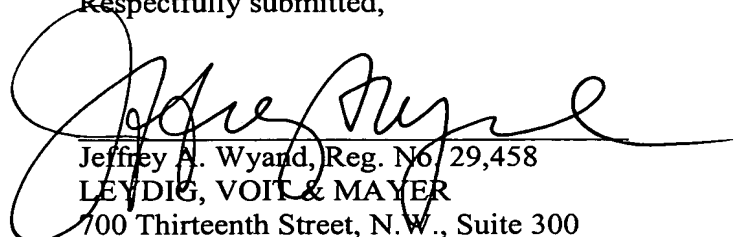
In reply to the Office Action dated March 6, 2006, Applicants elect with traverse the alleged species of claim 12. Applicants continue to disagree with the Examiner concerning the absence of relationship between claims 12 and 18, the only currently pending claims in this patent application. Applicants believe that examination of one of the claims will naturally result in the examination of the other of the claim. For that reason, both claims should be simultaneously examined.

Reconsideration of the restriction requirement and prompt and favorable examination of at least claim 12 are earnestly solicited.

Still another Information Disclosure Statement was filed on March 1 in this patent application. That Information Disclosure Statement was based upon publications cited in the corresponding Japanese patent application. An indication of consideration of the

publications cited in the Information Disclosure Statement in the next communication is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey A. Wyand, Reg. No. 29,458
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER
700 Thirteenth Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, DC 20005-3960
(202) 737-6770 (telephone)
(202) 737-6776 (facsimile)

Date: April 3 2006
JAW:ves